

CHAPTER 1.2.

CRITERIA FOR THE INCLUSION OF DISEASES IN THE OIE LIST

Article 1.2.1.

Introduction

This chapter describes the criteria for the inclusion of *diseases* in Chapter 1.3.

The objective of listing *diseases* is to support Member Countries by providing information needed to take appropriate action to prevent the transboundary spread of important *diseases of aquatic animals*. This is achieved by transparent, timely and consistent *notification*.

Each *listed disease* usually has a corresponding chapter that assists Member Countries in the harmonisation of *disease* detection, prevention and control, and provides standards for safe international trade in *aquatic animals* and *aquatic animal products*.

The requirements for *notification* are detailed in Chapter 1.1.

Principles and methods of validation of diagnostic tests are described in Chapter 1.1.2. of the *Aquatic Manual*.

Article 1.2.2.

The criteria for the inclusion of a *disease* in the OIE list are as follows:

- 1) International spread of the *pathogenic agent* (via *aquatic animals*, *aquatic animal products*, vectors or fomites) is likely.

AND

- 2) At least one country may demonstrate country or zone freedom from the *disease* in susceptible *aquatic animals*, based on provisions of Chapter 1.4.

AND

- 3) A precise *case definition* is available and a reliable means of detection and *diagnosis* exist.

AND

4)

- a) Natural transmission to humans has been proven, and human infection is associated with severe consequences.

OR

- b) The *disease* has been shown to affect the health of cultured *aquatic animals* at the level of a country or a *zone* resulting in significant consequences e.g. production losses, morbidity or mortality at a *zone* or country level.

OR

- c) The *disease* has been shown to, or scientific evidence indicates that it would, affect the health of wild *aquatic animals* resulting in significant consequences e.g. morbidity or mortality at a population level, reduced productivity or ecological impacts.
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